

What is

PEER COACHING

The Peer Coaching Program, supported by Microsoft Corporation, is a proven methodology for training teacher leaders to serve as peer coaches for their colleagues. Many educators will attest to the transformative power of peer coaching and its ability to alter practices and beliefs. Peer coaching is a practical way to deliver the ongoing, consistent support essential to assist teachers to improve their craft and increase student achievement. Peer coaches help other colleagues in their schools integrate technology into classroom learning activities and improve lesson design by incorporating engaging strategies such as project-based learning.

The program was developed at the Puget Sound Center as part of a U.S. Department of Education grant in 2002. Then in 2004 Microsoft licensed the curriculum making it the first of their Partners in Learning leadership programs. The Peer Coaching Team has trained educators in 49 countries and 10 U.S. states. Participants in this training have aligned the Peer Coaching Program with local goals and initiatives to assure successful implementation. Today, the Peer Coaching Team from Peer-Ed continues to provide the same high quality training and support the program has provided since its inception.



Building a global community where teachers work side-by-side to transform teaching and learning.

Why should I use Peer Coaching in my school?



When teachers are asked who they look to for guidance and training on how to use technology in their classrooms the vast majority of them say they would look to another teacher in their school. Why? They trust their peers and they know that help from this trusted source is there when they need it.

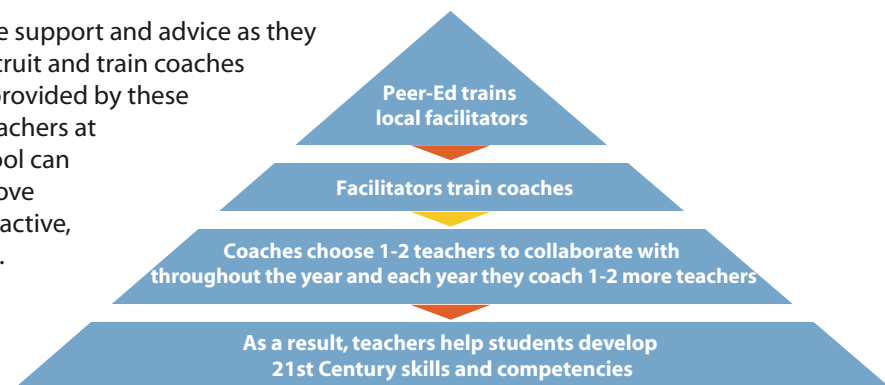
Research suggests that only 15-20% of teachers integrate technology skills into their teaching. There are several reasons for this. Technology skills are often taught to teachers without a classroom-integration context. Insufficient post-training support, from a community of learners and from local administrators, may further undermine effective technology integration.

The goal of Peer Coaching is to help schools to create systemic capacity to provide professional development by promoting the participation of school administrators as well as coaches and providing them with an ongoing online community to continue learning long after the initial training. In a time of budget cuts and department reorganizations, schools are challenged to do more with less. Peer Coaching provides effective, affordable teacher professional development.

How does Peer Coaching work?

The Peer-Ed staff train facilitators and provide support and advice as they implement Peer Coaching. The facilitators recruit and train coaches in local schools. The Peer Coaching training provided by these facilitators helps coaches collaborate with teachers at their schools so that each teacher in the school can strengthen the quality of learning, and improve student learning by providing students with active, engaging, technology-rich learning activities.

The program and curriculum is adaptable for each country or state's needs, but the basic structure is as displayed on the right:



Who is using Peer Coaching?

Peer-Ed has trained over 1,200 facilitators in 49 countries and ten states. These facilitators shape classroom activities for hundreds of thousands of coaches and teachers.

Latin America		Asia/Pacific		Europe/Mid-East/Africa		US/Canada
Argentina	Honduras	Australia	Lao PDR	Bahrain	Morocco	Arizona
Brazil	Jamaica	Bangladesh	Malaysia	Denmark	Oman	Alabama
Columbia	Mexico	Brunei	Philippines	Egypt	Scotland	British Columbia
Costa Rica	Panama	Cambodia	Singapore	England	South Africa	Manitoba
Dominican Republic	Puerto Rico	China	Sri Lanka	Finland	Sweden	Florida
El Salvador	Trinidad	Hong Kong	Taiwan	Germany	Turkey	South Carolina
Guatemala	Tobago	India	Thailand	Ireland	United Arab Emirates	Tennessee
	Venezuela	Indonesia	Vietnam	Israel		Washington
		Korea				Wisconsin
						Wyoming

How can I get involved?

We lead regional facilitator training workshops to help schools build their own capacity to create and sustain a Peer Coaching program. If you, your school, or your district is interested in developing a Peer Coaching Program, this is a cost-effective way to go. The one-week training prepares facilitators to recruit and train coaches in their schools, districts, or regions. The facilitator training will provide you with knowledge of the eight sessions of Peer Coaching content, how to facilitate that content, and the foundational knowledge necessary to manage your Peer Coaching program. You receive access to the Web site and electronic copies of all the necessary materials to implement the Peer Coaching Program.

There is no fee for further duplication since Microsoft provides the support and materials for free to facilitators who have attended facilitator training. This way, a district is able to sustain its program beyond the initial facilitator training.

We look forward to your future participation. Join us!

For more information contact:

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<http://us.partnersinlearningnetwork.com/>

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